PS Minute
ADVICE FOR: FIRST MINISTER
MACCS Case Number:
2018/0003750
Respond by: 1 March 2018
Correspondent/Organisation:
Mr Gary Cushway, on behalf of Indigenous Australian, Regina McKenzie and family.
Date and time of Event:
Flexible
Location of Event:
Overview of invitation and audience profile:
Flexible
Mr Cushway, Ms McKenzie and her family would like to meet with the First Minister to discuss the return of Australian radioactive waste following past reprocessing activity at Dounreay, which they believe has relevance to the Australian Government's consideration of the siting of a radioactive waste facility near to Ms McKenzie's home.
Decline
Comments:
We have sympathy with the concerns of members of
the Australian aboriginal community about the future

site of a facility to manage radioactive wastes, including waste due to be returned from the UK. However, the management of radioactive waste for which they are responsible is ultimately a matter for the Australian authorities.

The Australian authorities are carrying out a site selection process for a radioactive waste facility for a range of wastes, including waste to be returned from

the UK.

RECOMMENDATION:

This is a request on behalf on an individual

indigenous Australian woman, who has no formal

leadership or representative position.

Contracts for fuel reprocessing at Dounreay were signed between the UK and Australian authorities in 1996. The Australian authorities accept that they have a legal responsibility for the return of radioactive waste arising from the reprocessing activity. In 2012, the UK and Scottish Governments agreed a Dounreay Waste Substitution policy to enable the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to return an equivalent amount of waste in an alternative form that is easier to handle. For

Australia, an equivalent amount of vitrified waste will be returned from Sellafield, with the original cemented waste remaining at Dounreay.

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If recommendation is to accept, has this advice been agreedwithyourHeadofDivision? Yes No

Has another Minister been asked to attend:



Main theme that the event supports:

Main purpose of attending:

(Tick as many as apply)

Please provide an overview of SG policy that the event links to (High level and in bullet points)

- †Explain new policy or a major policy shift
- †Improve relations with stakeholders
- †Recognise contribution to policy implementation
- †Other (please specify):

Main message to communicate:
Most appropriate type of Ministerial input:
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Private Office view:
Diary should be checked as that may influence
whether another Minister should be asked to take
ontake**on** the e Private Office
contact:
vent Insert Name
Communications Office view:
Comments:
Comms should always provide a view on external events
Communications Office contact:
Insert Name and Ext
Action Officer:

Charles Stewart Roper

